8. (Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said first helper adenoviral vector is defective for E1 function.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said first helper adenoviral vector is defective in E2 function.

11. (Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said second helper adenoviral vector is defective for E1 function and optionally E3 function.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said second adenoviral vector is functional for the E1 function and wherein the E1 region is placed under the control of a non-adenoviral promoter.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said first and second adenoviral helper vectors have an origin of replication recognized by the same E2-encoded gene products.

20. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said first cell line is a non-human cell line.

24. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said second cell line is of human origin.

28. (Amended) The method of claim 1, which comprises more than one amplification step, wherein said viral particles obtained in step (f) are used to reinfect said second cell line in the presence of fresh second adenoviral helper vector or virus.

29. (Amended) The method of claim 1, which further comprises a purification step of the viral particles obtained in step (f).

30. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said viral particles obtained in step (f) are substantially helper-free.

32. (Amended) A viral preparation obtained according to the method of claim 1, wherein said viral preparation is substantially helper-free.

34. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a viral preparation according to claim 32.

35. (Amended) A method for the treatment of disease by gene therapy or immunotherapy comprising administering an effective amount of the viral preparation according to claim 32 to a patient in need of such treatment.